

OPINION 1105

DESIGNATION OF A TYPE-SPECIES FOR *LONOMIA* WALKER,
1855 (INSECTA, LEPIDOPTERA)

RULING.- (1) Under the plenary powers, all designations of type-species hitherto made for the genus *Lonomia* Walker, 1855, are hereby set aside and *Lonomia obliqua* Walker, 1855, is hereby designated as the type-species of that genus.

(2) The generic name *Lonomia* Walker, 1855 (gender, feminine), type-species, by designation under the plenary powers in (1) above, is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Number 2059.

(3) The specific name *obliqua* Walker, 1855, as published in the binomen *Lonomia obliqua* (specific name of type-species of *Lonomia* Walker, 1855) is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Number 2637.

HISTORY OF THE CASE Z.N.(S.) 2049

An application for the designation of a type-species for the Lepidopteran genus *Lonomia* Walker, 1855 was first received from Dr Lemaire (*17 rue d'Edimbourg, 75005, Paris, France*) through Dr Allan Watson of the British Museum (Natural History) on 14 June 1973. It was sent to the printer on 24 October 1973 and published on 28 June 1974 in *Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 30: 205-206. Public notice of the possible use of the plenary powers in the case was given in the same part of the *Bulletin* as well as to the serials specified in the Constitution and to nine entomological serials. Support was received from Dr P. Viette (*Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris*). No other comment was received.

DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 1 July 1977 the members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month Rule on Voting Paper (77)13 for or against the proposals set out in *Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 30: 206. At the close of the voting period on 1 October 1977, the state of the voting was as follows:

Affirmative votes - twenty (20) received in the following order: Vokes, Eisenmann, Melville, Willink, Brinck, Heppell, Starobogatov, Mroczkowski, Holthuis, Sabrosky, Nye, Rohdendorf, Binder, Corliss, Dupuis, Welch, Cogger, Habe, Bayer, Kraus

Negative vote: Ridè.

A late affirmative vote was sent in by Dr Alvarado. No voting papers were returned by Drs Bernardi, Lemche and Tortonese.

The following comments were sent in by members of the Commission with their voting papers:

Eisenmann: I see no reason for setting aside Draudt's previous designation which had the effect of making *obliqua* Walker the type-species under Article 69a(iv). The applicant is, of course, correct that under the Code Draudt's selection of *achelous* (not an originally included species) as type of the genus could not be effective, but as Draudt synonymised two of the included species with each other (*obliqua* and *albigutta*) [correctly, according to the applicant] and with *achelous* [incorrectly, according to the applicant], I believe that Article 69a(iv) applies and *obliqua* (assuming its precedence over *albigutta*) is the type as a result of Draudt's selection. I do not agree with the applicant's interpretation of that provision to the effect that synonymising two originally included species invalidates the selection.

Sabrosky: Although it does not directly affect the actions requested, we should note that the use of the family-name ATTACIDAE has been challenged.

Cogger: From the literature available to me I was unable to ascertain whether the name *Phalaena Attacus achelous* fulfils the criterion of binominal nomenclature. I note that Sherborn states that *Attacus* (*Attaci*) was 'apparently' used in a subgeneric sense by Linnaeus, and so my affirmative vote is based on the assumption (implicit in the proposal) that this criterion of binominality is met.

Ride: The applicant seeks the use of Article 70 in the case of a misidentified type-species cited as *L. obliqua* Walker. Article 70 gives three alternatives to the Commission:

- (i) the species actually involved (*L. achelous* Cramer sp.),
- (ii) the species named (*L. obliqua*), and
- (iii) if the identity of that species is doubtful, a species selected in accordance with usage.

First, the identity of the species is not in doubt. Secondly, of the remaining alternatives, I do not consider that the applicant has established a case for rejecting the species actually involved (*L. achelous*) especially as that would be in agreement with previous (though invalid) designations. I vote that *L. achelous* (Cramer) be designated the type-species of *Lonomia* Walker, 1855.

ORIGINAL REFERENCES

The following are the original references for the names placed on Official Lists by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

Lonomia Walker, 1855, *List Specim. Lepid. Ins. Coll. Brit. Mus.* vol. 5: 1191

obliqua, *Lonomia*, Walker, 1855, *List Specim. Lepid. Ins. Coll. Brit. Mus.*, vol. 5: 1194

CERTIFICATE

I certify that the votes cast on Voting Paper (77)13 were cast as set out above, that the proposal contained in that voting paper has been duly adopted under the plenary powers, and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, is truly recorded in the present Opinion 1105.

R.V. MELVILLE

Secretary

International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

London

4 October 1977